TERRA

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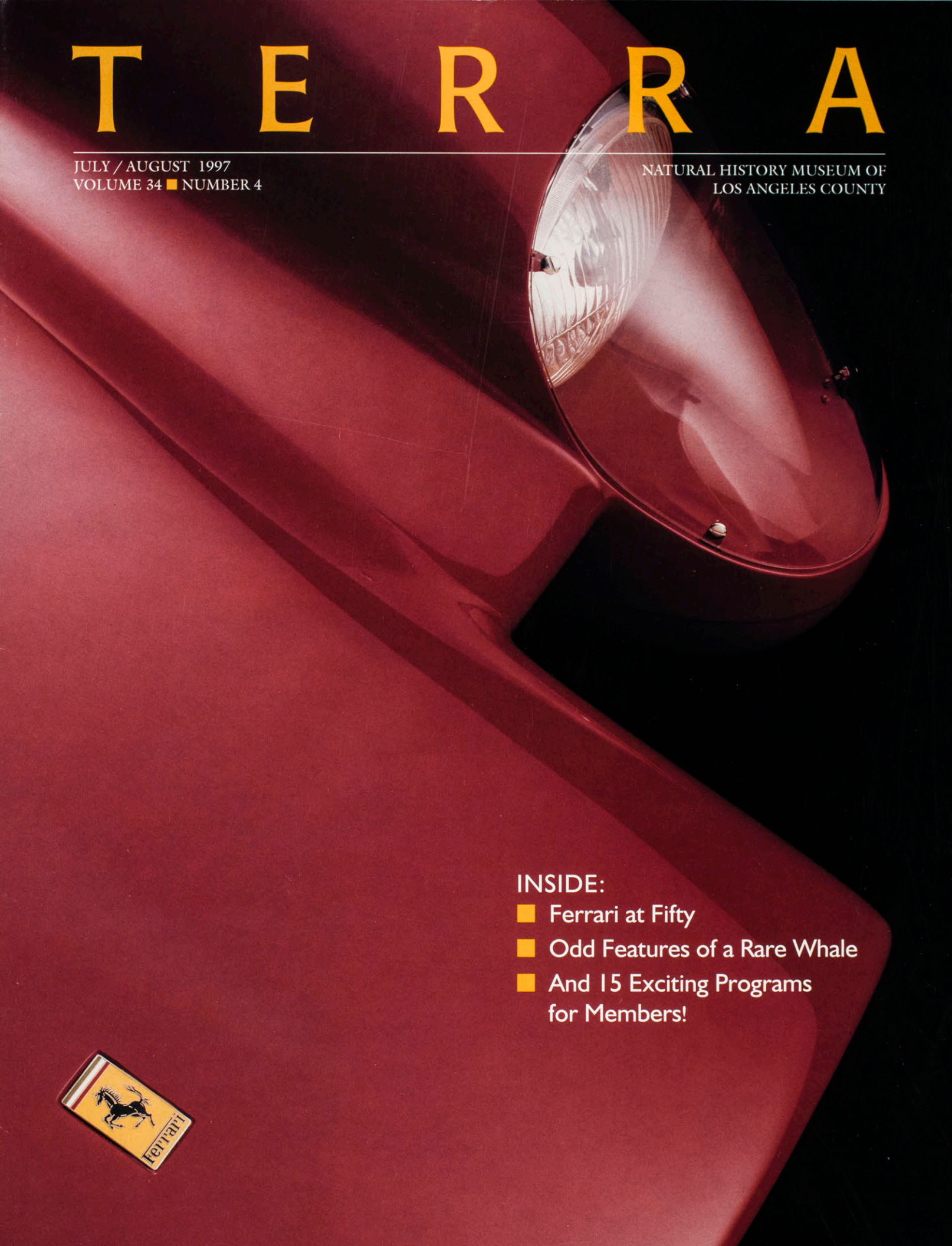
NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF
LOS ANGELES COUNTY



INSIDE:

- Ferrari at Fifty
- Odd Features of a Rare Whale
- And 15 Exciting Programs for Members!

FERRARI AT FIFTY

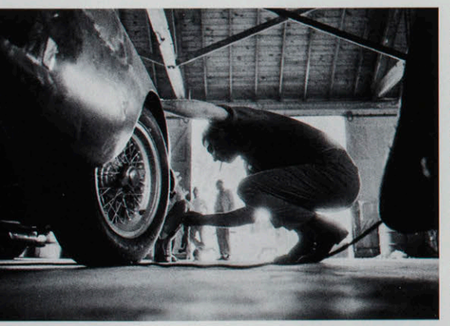
In 1947 Enzo Ferrari established an empire to satisfy his instinctive urge to race artfully engineered and sensuously bodied cars for the glory of Italy. The impact that he had on the automotive world was both immediate and enduring. With their melodious V-12 engines and sculptured mechanical components, Mr. Ferrari's ferocious machines underscored their creator's artistic sensibilities and proclaimed his passion for motor sports.

Enzo Ferrari was born in 1898 in Modena, Italy, to a family that was one of the first in the city to acquire a car. As a teenager, he gained mechanical knowledge in his father's metalworking business, which had begun to do automotive repair in addition to producing fittings for railroad cars. After serving in the first world war—for part of the time as a mechanic, he had a series of jobs that led to racing competition and then to a position as a driver for Alfa Romeo, where he was eventually appointed to head the prestigious race team. In 1929, he established his own team, the *Scuderia Ferrari* (Ferrari Stable), and adopted as its emblem the prancing horse, or *Cavallino Rampante,* used by Italian flying ace Francesco Baracca and passed on by the Baracca family in tribute to Mr. Ferrari's valor on the race track.

In 1940, Mr. Ferrari retired from Alfa Romeo and embarked on an ambitious program to produce cars of his own design. Because the name Scuderia Ferrari was still attached to Alfa, he began his new venture under the title *Auto Avio Costruzione.* The two cars he built, each powered by a small 1.5-liter, straight-8 engine, were attractive and competitive but unable to win races. World War II gave their creator time to rethink his approach.

Mr. Ferrari was a manufacturer of machine tools during the war, and when hostilities ended he emerged with the capability of designing and constructing an entirely new automobile. The first car to bear his name appeared in the spring of 1947; it was powered by a sophisticated 1.5-liter engine with a V-12 design that he had admired in American Packard luxury cars of the 1930s. Within a short time, the new marque had garnered victories in important local races and then at the prestigious Mille Miglia and the Swedish Grand Prix; a first place in the Le Mans 24-hour endurance race of 1949 brought international attention and acclaim.

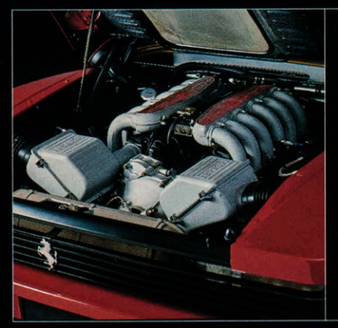
To finance further racing efforts, Mr. Ferrari took the suggestion of Ameri-

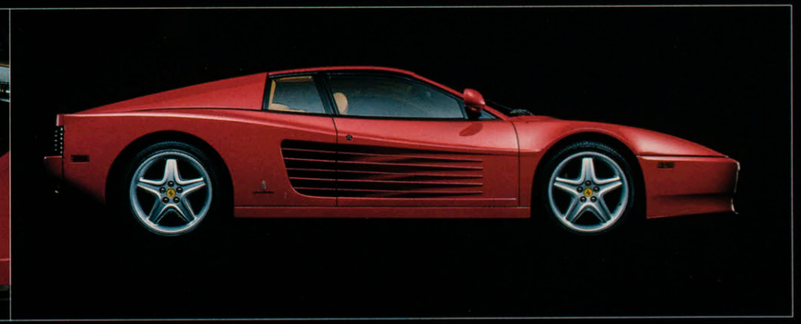


Left: Alfonso de Portago paints his car at Sebring, 1957. The Spanish Marquis de Portago, who began racing in 1954 in a Ferrari, won or placed in a number of competitions before his death in a crash in the 1957 Mille Miglia. Photograph by Tom Burnside.

Right, top: A 1962 400 Superamerica. _Center:_ A 1967 275 GTB/4; collection of Bruce Meyer. _Bottom:_ A 1992 512 Testa Rossa. Photographs by Scott Williamson.

Cover: Detail of the 1957 250 Testa Rossa prototype; collection of Fred Peters and Charles and Carol Betz. Photograph by Scott Williamson.





can importer Luigi Chinetti and began to offer a range of road cars to a select few high-profile customers. Many of the early greats of American sports car racing campaigned privately owned Ferraris on domestic circuits, and talented U.S. drivers like Phil Hill, Dan Gurney, and Carroll Shelby were recruited to race in Europe.

By the early 1960s, Mr. Ferrari's cars held four world Formula 1 titles and had finished first at almost every major racetrack in the world. He had won the World Sports Car Championship in 7 of the 9 years since its creation. And many of his rivals had either quit motor racing or gone bankrupt. Mr. Ferrari was at the pinnacle of his sport.

As the competition cars developed, the distinction between Ferrari road cars and racers became more pronounced; no longer would production cars be thinly disguised racers. Other European companies had begun to use mass production techniques to manufacture cars economically on a large scale. But Mr. Ferrari resisted this trend. His emphasis on crafting and carefully finishing each component by hand meant that a small team of artisans was still needed to build each Ferrari. This approach kept prices high and availability low, which in turn perpetuated the marque's mystique.

But in the late 1960s, labor problems, the resignation of key personnel, and the rising cost of racing prompted Mr. Ferrari to seek additional income. In 1969 he struck a deal to involve FIAT in the development and production of Ferrari road cars while leaving him with control of the racing department. Under the new arrangement, resources continued to be directed to a panoply of racing cars, but the legendary proliferation of Ferrari production models was curbed. FIAT adopted a limited array of mass-production methods and narrowed the focus to a few models with more reasonable although still severely limited sales potential. Even with these changes, *La Ferrari* remained by nearly every standard the world's most coveted performance car.

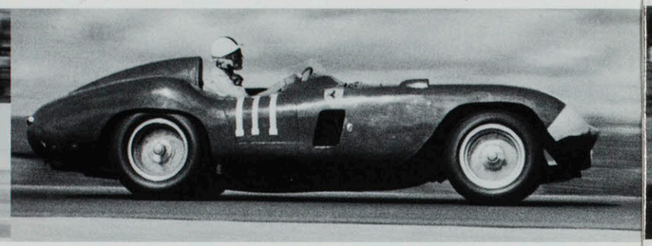
Using cars designed and built entirely in house, Ferrari won the Constructor's Title in 1972; the Formula 1 in 1975, 1977, and 1979; and the Formula 1 Constructor's Title in 1975, 1976, 1977, and 1979. Meanwhile, worldwide gasoline shortages and rigorous safety standards had created a gap between Ferraris in the U.S. and elsewhere: outstanding 12-cylinder cars were built for other parts of the world, but only 8-cylinder models were available to the American market.

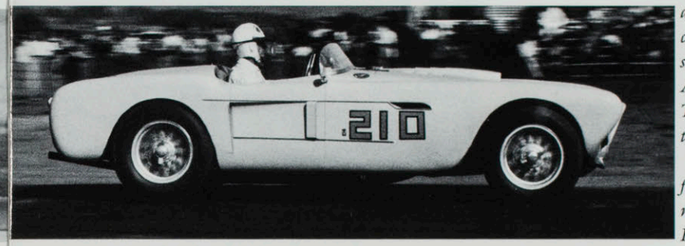
As technology evolved and consumer tastes shifted, Ferrari adapted without sacrificing prestige or standards. In the early 1980s, the typical Ferrari—now a mid-engine car—had a double overhead camshaft engine for efficiency and a suspension that was both sporting and refined. The only Ferraris built in small numbers during this period were those that resembled racing models that the factory wanted to homologate for competition in a certain production class.

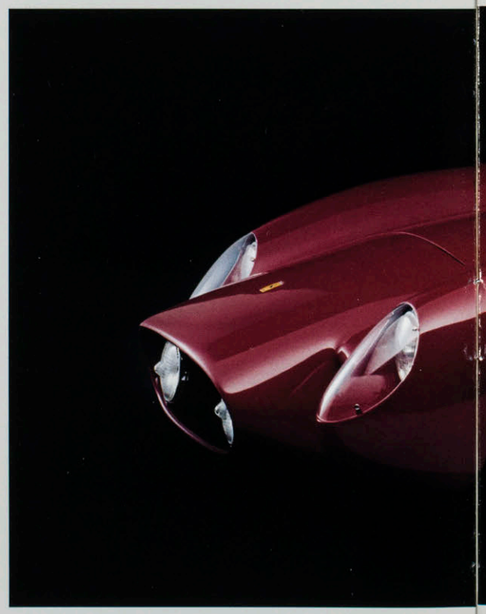
In the mid-1980s, Ferrari entered the world market with a fleet of 8- and 12-cylinder models that met stringent emissions and safety standards. Now in his eighties, Mr. Ferrari continued to supervise the racing program, winning Constructor's titles in 1982 and 1983. He also helped design the F-40, a road car released in celebration of the factory's fortieth anniversary. The F-40 was to be his last new model: Enzo Ferrari died in the spring of 1988 at age 90. The anniversary and obituary tributes gave aficionados a heightened respect for the distinctive features of the early cars and a renewed appreciation for the Ferrari tradition.

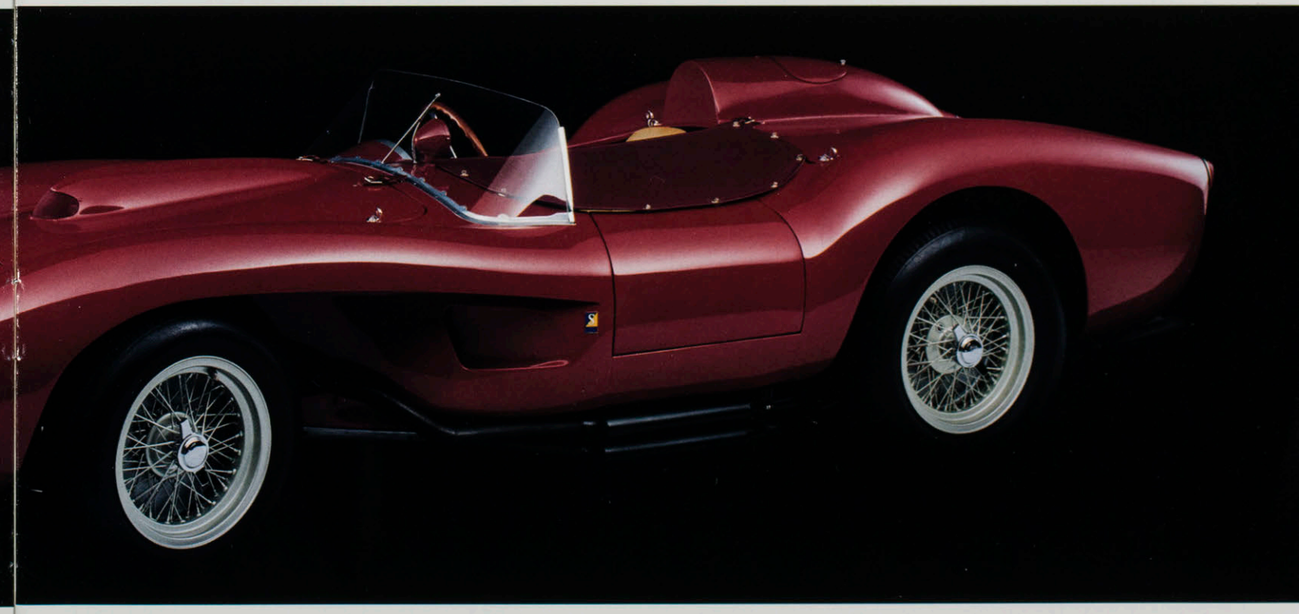
Enzo Ferrari said that his favorite car was always the one he had yet to build, and this forward-looking philosophy still guides the company. With former race team manager Luca di Montezemolo at the helm, Ferrari is compounding its prestigious heritage. The Formula 1 team is a leading contender, with another World Championship as its primary objective. A new flagship, the 550 Maranello, maintains the high standards of Ferrari road cars. Although a somewhat less costly line may soon be introduced to build sales volume, street models will certainly continue to benefit from and reflect the achievements of the racing department. And Ferrari will no doubt continue its uninterrupted association with the wealthiest, most glamorous, and most audacious people of its times.

LESLIE KENDALL, Collection Manager
Petersen Automotive Museum









The year 1997 marks the fiftieth anniversary of Ferrari, a name synonymous with beauty, performance, and exclusivity. The Petersen Automotive Museum's exhibition, Ferrari at Fifty, which was curated by Mr. Kendall and designed by James Hatch, traces the development of sports, racing, and road cars and includes twenty-four outstanding examples from American collections. The exhibition is on view through October 19.

As a photojournalist for Life *and various motoring journals, Tom Burnside documented the East Coast sports car racing scene from 1954 until 1968; 600 photographs from his resulting archive of black and white images, and commentary by Denise McCluggage, make up the recent book,* American Racing: Road Racing in the '50s and '60s *(Könemann; Motorbooks International, distributor). Mr. Burnside operates Burnside Motorsport Archive in Pawlet, Vermont; his views of racing Ferraris are on display at the Petersen Museum through October 19.*

In a varied photography career spanning more than 20 years, Scott Williamson has become a master at capturing the essence of the automobile. Through his Santa Ana company, Photodesign, he now specializes in automotive subjects for clients such as Toyota, Lexus, and Mercedes-Benz. His images have appeared in Petersen Photographic *and* Professional Photographer *and are included in the automotive art collection of the Behring Auto Museum. A long-running general exhibition of his work at the Petersen Automotive Museum closed recently; a new show—on hot rods—is planned for fall 1997. Mr. Williamson is a member of the Petersen's support group, the Checkered Flag 200.*

Above, from left to right: At the races—John von Neumann in a 250 Testa Rossa at Sebring, 1958; Carroll Shelby in a 121 Le Mans at Elkhart Lake, 1956; and Preston Gray in a 340 Mexico Spyder at Watkins Glen, 1955. Photographs by Tom Burnside.

Below: The 1957 250 Testa Rossa prototype; collection of Fred Peters and Charles and Carol Betz. Photograph by Scott Williamson.

AN INTRIGUING WHALE IN THE ANTIPODES

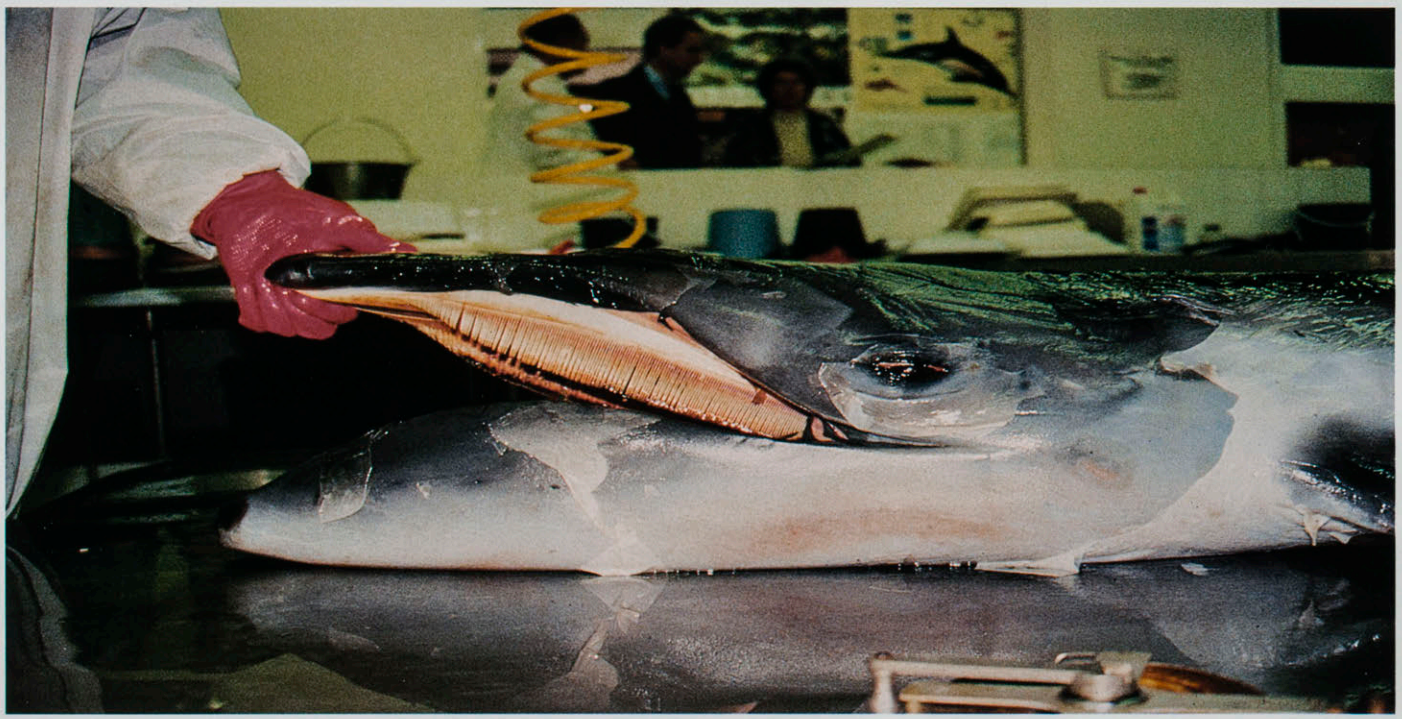
CURIOSITY OFTEN TAKES MUSEUM curators to distant places in search of new information. In August 1996 my curiosity took me to New Zealand to dissect the world's rarest baleen whale. The trip was part of a long-term project with my colleagues, Drs. James Mead and Sentiel Rommel of the Smithsonian Institution: we intend to describe the anatomy of each of the major groups of filter-feeding baleen whales, including the right whales, gray whales, humpback whales, and the immense blue whale (the size of these leviathans makes dissections logistically challenging, and there have been few published studies on their basic body structure). In the past few years, we have been successful in locating freshly dead stranded specimens of all of these groups except one—the enigmatic pygmy right whale, *Caperea marginata*.

Pygmy right whales are the smallest of the baleens, and an adult female may grow to be a "mere" 21 feet long (although it is an unusual pattern among mammals, in pygmy right whales and all other baleen whales, females are about 10 percent larger than males). Inhabiting the higher latitude waters of the Southern Hemisphere, the species is primarily known from a few dozen strandings along the coasts of New Zealand, Australia, South America, and South Africa. Sightings at sea are infrequent.

When Anton van Heldon of the Museum of New Zealand contacted us with the news of the stranding of a dead newborn pygmy right whale, which he had frozen, we applauded his quick action and began to prepare for an expedition to Palmerston North, where we would join a small group of researchers from Japan and Australia. Meanwhile, just a month prior to our arrival, an adult female pygmy right whale and calf stranded and died near Auckland. Instantly our opportunities to learn about this uncommon species had dramatically increased.

THE THREE DISSECTIONS took our team of seven the better part of five days and left us all wanting even more time to explore the inner workings of these interesting animals. The species is anatomically

Above: **Dr. Butch Rommel examines the details of muscle attachment to the exceptionally wide ribs of the pygmy right whale.** ***Below:*** **The newborn pygmy right whale shows some of the striking coloration characteristic of the young of this species. The filtering baleen can be seen emerging from its upper jaw.** ***Opposite:*** **The dissection team poses in front of the remains of the adult female for a "still life with whale carcass." Photographs by J. Mead, Smithsonian Institution.**



the most bizarre of any that we have examined. Its swimming muscles are proportionately immense and are attached to its bones in ways unlike those found in any other whale or dolphin.

We have the honor of being the first scientists to collect ear wax plugs from a pygmy right whale! Although this may sound like a strange hygiene fixation, ear plugs are vital to the study of a whale's biology, for the wax accumulates in rings that reveal the whale's age. The ear plug from the adult was carefully placed into formalin for future study.

For me, the most fascinating discovery was that the pygmy right whale's tongue contains countercurrent heat exchangers—each a distinctive mesh of veins closely woven around an artery. Such structures are well known in the dorsal fins and flukes of other species of whales and some dolphins, where their purpose is to conserve heat that could easily be lost through the broad surfaces of these extremities, which have little insulating blubber. In a heat exchanger, the arterial blood transfers its warmth, brought from the core of the whale's body, to the adjacent cool venous blood returning to the heart from the body's surface. The result is a recirculation of heat back to the center of the animal through the veins. But why would a whale need such a structure in its tongue?

The biology of the pygmy right whale's relatives provides a possible explanation. The species has relatively long baleen with fine fringe, similar to that found in the larger right whale, which feeds by opening the mouth and slowly "skimming" the water to filter out its tiny plankton prey. Pygmy right whales probably feed in the same manner. But skim feeding exposes the tongue to a steady stream of cold water. Strategically placed countercurrent heat exchangers could reduce heat loss through the tongue into the water; and the ensuing conservation of warmth could be quite significant to these small whales, which may have to feed for extended periods in their frigid subantarctic habitats.

The detailed results of our team's work in this first dissection of pygmy right whales will trickle out over time as a series of scientific papers, later to be distilled into the popular literature. It was exciting to have the opportunity to add to the body of knowledge of cetaceans through this project, and I am pleased that the readers of TERRA will be among the first to learn of our discoveries.

JOHN E. HEYNING
Curator of Mammals

As head of the Natural History Museum's mammalogy program, Dr. Heyning curates the world's second largest collection of marine mammals. He is author of Masters of the Ocean Realm: Whales, Dolphins, and Porpoises *(published by the museum in association with University of Washington Press, 1995), which is available in the Museum Stores.*

MUSEUM ON THE MOVE

NEW SENIOR OUTREACH SUBJECT

The Senior Outreach Program, a free educational service provided by the museum to the elderly in board and care facilities and nursing and retirement homes in Los Angeles County, has gained a new topic for the 1997–1998 touring season. "Native American Women: From Pueblos to Condos," will make its debut this October with hands-on artifacts and reproductions illustrating everyday life for women in three different Native American cultures: Plains, California, and Southwest.

"Participants will explore contemporary movements as well as traditional customs," said Outreach Coordinator Aimee Aul. "The artifacts were chosen to illustrate how these particular Native American cultures have changed and developed over the years, sometimes in response to pressure from the dominant culture and sometimes in defiance of it. I think it will be interesting for the senior citizens and the museum's docent presenters alike."

In addition to the new topic, the Senior Outreach Program continues to offer "Chaparral: A Walk in the Wild" and "1913: Do You Remember When?" to more than 500 elderly residents of Los Angeles County each year. The objectives of the program are threefold: to reach older adults who are physically or financially unable to visit the museum, to encourage learning by integrating the participants' past experiences with new knowledge, and to stimulate creativity and rekindle self-esteem while improving socialization.

For more information on the Senior Outreach Program, please call Ms. Aul or Sylvia Khan in the museum's Education Division at 213/763-3344.

YOU CAN ADOPT A MINERAL!

The Natural History Museum's Gem & Mineral Council and its Mineral Sciences Section have an intriguing new way for people to help the museum to build one of the world's great gem and mineral collections—and to be recognized for their efforts.

Anyone can adopt one of the beautiful specimens already purchased for the museum by the Gem & Mineral Council by

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NEW PERIDOT AND RHODOCHROSITE SPECIMENS

New Museum Treasures

FOR MILLENNIA PEOPLE HAVE combed the earth in search of its elusive mineralogical treasures. Yet even today, when it seems as though virtually every square inch of our globe has been explored, important gem discoveries remain to be made. The most remote and inhospitable areas hold the greatest promise, the greatest allure, and the greatest hardships.

Pakistan's North West Frontier Province, lying within the vast Himalaya Mountain Range, is one of the most rugged and isolated regions of the world. A deposit of magnesite—a nondescript white mineral with some industrial uses—is found here at Sapat in the upper Jalkot Valley, at an elevation of about 15,000 feet. The same incredible forces that built the Himalayas were responsible for pushing the magnesite source rock up from the depths of the earth's mantle.

A small band of Pakistanis had been eking out a modest existence from the deposit using very primitive methods. Then in the early 1990s, the miners began to come across fragments of glassy yellowish-green crystals. Their excitement grew as they contemplated the possibility that they were finding emeralds, and they were encouraged by the reaction of the gem dealers in Peshawar (with its population of more than 500,000, the largest city in the region). Eventually some of the green material made its way to the German gem center Idar-Oberstein where it was pronounced to be peridot.

Word spread quickly after that, both in the world gem market and in the outreaches of Pakistan. Thousands of local people descended on Sapat, each digging frantically, trying to secure a personal dream of instant wealth. In a short time this wonderfully rich deposit has yielded some of the largest and finest peridot crystals ever found. But even though the site is only accessible for a few months each year, the flurry of mining is threatening to exhaust its reserves (some say that already there is little left). It would not be the first time that a gem source of apparently vast richness disappeared virtually overnight.

Many of the more attractive crystals from Sapat have been offered for sale to mineral collectors, but the economics of the gem market dictate that crystals of top color and clarity be cut into gems. Fortunately, the deposit's largest well-formed piece (which is also the largest peridot crystal found to date anywhere) was saved from the cutter. This extraordinary 6-inch-tall crystal, weighing 4795 carats and containing between 300 and 400 carats of fine gem material, was purchased for the Natural History Museum by Melvin S. Hindin.

Realizing that the crystal told only part of the story, Mr. Hindin acquired a matching faceted gem for the museum's collection. The cut stone, which weighs 231 carats, is itself among the biggest and best in the world. It shares a place of

honor beside the crystal, which has been dubbed "The Hindin Peridot," on permanent display in the Gallery of Gem Crystals at the rear of the museum's Hall of Gems and Minerals.

IN A RUGGED MOUNTAIN RANGE on the other side of the world—in the Rockies of Colorado—another human mineralogical drama was unfolding. This story actually began a century ago with the establishment of a small silver prospect named the Sweet Home. This mine, located at 11,000 feet near the town of Alma, was never much of a silver producer, but it gained some notoriety for the deep red rhodochrosite crystals that were occasionally found along with the ore.

Mining for silver at Sweet Home ceased in the 1930s, but now and then a collector would sneak into the mine in search of a rhodochrosite crystal or two. Then in 1964 two enterprising miners, working in the Sweet Home without permission, discovered a pocket from which they removed an exceptionally fine grouping of large, brilliant rhodochrosite crystals. This specimen soon became an icon in the mineral world, the kind of trophy that most collectors can only dream about owning.

Later attempts to wrest more of the exquisite red crystals from the Sweet Home proved dismal and very expensive failures. But in the early 1990s, a consortium led by Bryan Lees of Golden, Colorado, decided to apply state-of-the-art technology to the search for rhodochrosite. Their efforts were rewarded in 1992, when they located the first of several major new pockets.

The 1992 discovery, quite appropriately named "The Good Luck Pocket," produced some of the most beautiful rhodochrosite specimens ever found. One of the most distinctive is an interlocking stack of three large crystals, each displaying an unusually high degree of transparency and a bright red color. Standing more than 4 inches tall, the unusual sculptural quality of this remarkable piece evoked an image in the minds of the miners: they nicknamed it "The Stickman."

When Mel Hindin first saw this rhodochrosite he was moved by its beauty and knew what he had to do: he wanted this incredible work of Nature preserved for display to the people of Los Angeles. Thanks to Mr. Hindin's generosity, the Stickman is now part of the museum's collection; it is mounted alongside our new peridot treasures in the Hall of Gems and Minerals.

ANTHONY R. KAMPF
Curator of Mineral Sciences

UNITED PHOTOGRAPHERS, INC.

Melvin S. Hindin was born and raised in the Pittsburgh area. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1944 and served in combat with the 42nd Rainbow Infantry Division. After the war, he attended the University of Pittsburgh and received his master's degree in psychiatric casework in 1952. Mr. Hinden moved to southern California in that same year. His career as a psychotherapist culminated in his 20-year tenure as director of the Hathaway Home for Children in Highland Park. His wife of 38 years, Frances Ornea Hindin, died in 1990; their son, Joseph, lives in Elk Grove, California.

Mr. Hindin has long been a dedicated supporter of the Natural History Museum—he became a docent in 1984, a member of the Fellows in 1993, and a director of the Gem & Mineral Council in 1994; he is now newly elected to our Alliance Board of Directors. Mel has made other significant donations to the museum, including several to the gem and mineral collections.

***Opposite:* The Hindin Peridot and its companion 231-carat faceted gem. *This page, left:* The rhodochrosite specimen known as the Stickman. Photographs by Harold and Erica Van Pelt.**

PROGRAMS FOR MEMBERS AND VISTORS

LECTURES & SPECIAL EVENTS

Ninth Annual Egyptian Symposium

■ MUMMIES

Saturday, July 12, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Jean Delacour Auditorium, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Perhaps the most elaborate known preparation of the dead took place in ancient Egypt. No other culture in the ancient world practiced mummification to such a degree or with the same complex motives. In this symposium, two distinguished experts will describe the development of the early Egyptians' views of the afterlife and their resulting funerary practices; we will also hear of exciting new discoveries coming out of research into mummification techniques.

Dr. Bob Brier, Professor of Philosophy at C.W. Post College in New York, is an expert on ancient mummification. He will outline the evolution of the practice in Egypt and the rituals associated with it.

Dr. Catharine H. Roehrig, Associate Curator in the Department of Egyptian Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, will discuss mummified remains from the Valley of the Kings and the work being undertaken to identify Egypt's Royal Mummies.

Cosponsored by the American Research Center in Egypt, Southern California Chapter. $40 members, $50 nonmembers, $25 students with I.D.

A lecture and booksigning

■ HOW THE TIGER LOST ITS STRIPES

Sunday, August 24, 2 p.m., Jean Delacour Auditorium, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

"The tiger is in no danger of extinction." This surprising sentence opens Cory J. Meacham's new book, *How the Tiger Lost Its Stripes* (Harcourt Brace, 1997), an in-depth look at the endangerment of one of the most majestic and elusive animals still to roam the planet. In his lecture, Mr. Meacham examines the role of zoos and captive breeding programs, the politics of international conservation efforts, and the battle between environmentalists and practitioners of Chinese medicine, who regularly prescribe ground tiger bone to patients. Which leads us to the question at hand: can the tiger survive in its natural surroundings? $7 members, $9 nonmembers, $5 students with current I.D.

A walking tour

CALIFORNIA'S HISTORIC VENICE

Sunday, August 10, 9 to 11 a.m.

BOARDWALK BEAUTY PAGEANT, VENICE, 1923. PHOTOGRAPH FROM ELAYNE ALEXANDER COLLECTION, COURTESY VENICE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Elayne Alexander, author of *Abbot Kinney's Venice-of-America,* leads us on a fascinating tour of this colorful southern California area. We will hear how Kinney came to found the town, with its network of waterways, and learn how it looked on July 4, 1905, its grand opening day. After viewing the remains of the once-elegant Abbot Kinney pier, we will visit the building that Jack Williams, "The Human Fly", climbed without the benefit of ropes in 1919.

Ms. Alexander will share tales of Venice's golden era, when Sarah Bernhardt and other famous people were drawn there, and when the antics of the residents established the city's enduring reputation as a free space for artists, dreamers, and rebels. $20 members, $25 nonmembers.

■ HART OF THE WEST

Saturday and Sunday, September 27 and 28, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., William S. Hart Museum and Park, Newhall

Celebrate California's admission into the Union and gear up for the sesquicentennial of California's statehood with a weekend of Western fun at the William S. Hart Park and Museum. Activities include a Native American Powwow and craft fair, a Wild West show, reenactments of scenes from the Civil War era, and hands-on opportunities to discover what life was like in the Old West. Admission is free. For more information, please call 805/259-0855.

■ SILENTS UNDER THE STARS

Saturday, August 23, 7:30 p.m., William S. Hart Park, Newhall

Join us for a special showing of William S. Hart's 1916 film, *Hell's Hinges,* on the grounds of his beautiful home in the Santa Clarita Valley. The classic silent will be presented with selected short subjects and live music accompaniment by a jug band. Refreshments will be offered. Seating is on a first-come, first served basis, and you'll need to bring flashlights to find your way around during this afterhours special event. For additional information and to register, please call 805/254-4584. $5 members, $6 nonmembers.

ADULT FIELD TRIPS

■ SOUTH WESTERN COLORADO MINING TOUR

Saturday, September 6, through Saturday, September 13

Right and below: Scenes from the Chesapeake Bay region; courtesy Queen Anne's County Office of Tourism.

Experience a nugget of American history as we explore several of Colorado's nineteenth-century towns renowned for their rich mining histories. Along the way, we'll visit a number of abandoned and working mines including the underground Idaho Spring's Phoenix Gold Mine, where miners still push tons of gold and silver ore about in small railroad cars just as they did 100 years ago.

We'll uncover the history of a bygone era as we listen to stories of the miners, hunters, and settlers of the area. We'll also encounter the legacy of Colorado's mountain railroading history as we ride the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad through the San Juan Mountains, and the Leadville, Colorado and Southern Railroad along the Arkansas River to the spectacular Fremont Pass.

Catch a different view of Colorado in a day of rafting through Durango, while our river guide shares the history of the region and stories of local tradition. Our trip leader is historian and lecturer Dr. James Fell, author of books on mining history such as *Mining the Summit: Colorado's Ten Mile District 1860-1960* and *Ores to Metal.*

For a complete itinerary, please phone 213/763-3534. $1,199 members, $1,249 nonmembers, based on double occupancy; price includes 7 nights accommodations, most meals, and transportation within Colorado. A limited number of single supplements are available.

■ LOTUSLAND

America's Most Exotic Garden

Saturday, September 20, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Lotusland, the former estate of Russian operatic soprano Madame Ganna Walska, is one of the richest treasure troves of tropical and subtropical plants in North America: some of the plant species on this 37-acre botanical park have become extinct in their native habitats. But the site was a secret to all but garden aficionados and botanists until it was opened to the public in 1992.

We will spend 2 hours touring the unusual gardens with Lotusland docents. Robert Spangenberg, horticulturist and former Natural History Museum staff member, will accompany us on our trip up the coast to give background information on the rare plants that we will encounter. Following our trip to Lotusland, we will picnic at Rocky Nook Park, then travel to the Santa Barbara Orchid Estate for a private tour.

Registration includes admission fees to both Lotusland and the Santa Barbara Orchid Estate, plus transportation from the Petersen Automotive Museum by chartered motorcoach; participants bring their own picnic lunch. $55 members, $65 nonmembers

■ THE THEATER DISTRICT

Saturday, September 27, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Explore the streets of Los Angeles and recall film's golden years as we view the sumptuous movie palaces in Broadway's historic Theater District. Docents from the Los Angeles Conservancy lead our morning walking tour through the largest concentration of pre-World War II movie houses in America, where we will review the beginnings of the movie industry, from the Nickelodeon to the birth of the talkies, and examine the interiors of several historic theaters, including the majestic Orpheum. Wear comfortable walking shoes for our morning trek into Hollywood's history. $20 members, $25 nonmembers..

■ THE CHESAPEAKE BAY ECOSYSTEM

Sunday, October 12, through Sunday, October 19

Soak up the brilliant colors of fall foliage as we visit Maryland's Eastern Shore and explore the unique ecosystem of the mighty Chesapeake Bay, focusing on the natural and cultural treasures of the region. Although threatened by encroaching development, this complex environment continues to sustain a rich habitat for native wildlife; its towns allow fascinating glimpses of an earlier America.

Miles of colorful shoreline will unfold as we explore protected wetlands and nature preserves, observing the seasonal migration of shore birds along the Atlantic Flyway. We'll learn more about the natural history of the area in visits to the Horsehead Wetlands Center and the Wye Islands Nature Area. The impact of humans and their agriculture will be highlighted in a tour of a working tidewater farm and a cruise through the waters of Tilghman Island on an oyster-dredging "skipjack." A woodcarving demonstration and a canoeing trip down the Tred Avon River will give us two more views of wildfowl.

The vibrant history of the Chesapeake will come alive at our stops in the colonial ports of St. Michaels—home of the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum—and Chestertown, where we will stroll brick sidewalks and view Georgian-style mansions and elaborate Victorians. We will stay at restored country and small town inns and indulge in the renowned Tidewater cuisine; our journey ends in Annapolis.

For a complete itinerary, please call 213/763-3534. $1,723 members, $1,773 nonmembers, based on double occupancy; price includes 7 nights accommodations, most meals, and transportation within Maryland. A limited number of single supplements are available. Cosponsored with the San Diego Natural History Museum.

PROGRAMS FOR MEMBERS AND VISITORS CONTINUED

■ THE LIFE AND LAND OF THE HOPI

January 12 through 19, 1998

Because of the resounding success and popularity of our January 1997 trip to northern Arizona, we are pleased to offer a second excursion to this fascinating area, with an added day-journey to Canyon de Chelly.

The Hopi, descendants of the ancient Anasazi, have resided in villages in their mesa country for many centuries. As craftspeople they are well known for their exquisite polychrome pottery, silver overlay work, coiled basketry, and intricately carved kachinas. To uncover the traditions and lifeways of these people of the Southwest, we will visit villages and historical sites, interact with residents and community leaders, and observe artisans at work. Our guides, most of whom are Hopi tribal members, are experts in the culture.

$1035 members, $1085 nonmembers; single occupancy option an additional $280. Price includes 7 nights' lodging at the Hopi Cultural Center, tours of Hopi country, meals, and all transportation beginning and ending in Phoenix. Cosponsored with the Heard Museum in association with the Yavapai County Community College.

Please call 213/763-3534 for a complete itinerary.

CHILDREN'S & FAMILY PROGRAMS

To ensure the best possible experience for your child, please abide by the age requirements stipulated in our program descriptions.

■ ADVENTURES IN NATURE

July 14 to 18, July 21 to 25, July 28 to August 1, and August 4 to 8 (mornings only), Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Children from ages 3 to 13 learn about nature first hand in exciting participatory sessions with outstanding museum instructors. The week-long courses, which may be taken mornings or afternoons, offer opportunities to visit the curatorial laboratories, work with specimens, and make craft items to take home. While children are in class, adults may enjoy free museum programs.

Children ages 14 and older are encouraged to apply for a limited number of Junior Volunteer positions, where they can help instructors in classes and aid in lunchtime games and supervision.

Classes run Monday through Friday, mornings (10 a.m. to noon) or afternoons (1 to 3 p.m.) Children who are enrolled in both morning and afternoon classes will be supervised over the lunch break. Program costs are $70 per week-long class for members, $80 per week-long class for nonmembers. Members receive additional discounts when enrolling two or more siblings.

An Adventures in Nature brochure was sent to all members at the family level and above at the beginning of April. **Note that, due to popular demand, we have since added a fourth week of classes, August 4 to 8, morning sessions only.**

If you need additional information or if you are interested in sponsoring a child from an economically challenged family, please call 213/763-3534.

FAMILY FUNDAYS—NOW AT THE PETERSEN, TOO!

These hands-on family programs are **free** *with museum admission for children ages 4 and older. No reservations are necessary, but space in some programs is limited, so please arrive early.*

■ MUMMY CATS OF EGYPT

Saturday, July 12, 1:30 p.m., Discovery Center, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Come and learn how the early Egyptians mummified their cats and why these animals were so important to them. We will also do some special face painting on you!

■ THOSE FASCINATING FERRARIS

Sunday, July 20, 2 p.m., Artopia, Petersen Automotive Museum

Drive your imagination to Italy, where Ferraris are built, and learn more about these incredible imports. Then design your own fast car in an elegant tradition.

■ CATS ARE FANCY!

Saturday, August 9, 1:30 p.m., Discovery Center, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Meet some of the Cat Fanciers' Association judges and learn how they choose the top cat. Then make a fancy cat craft item that you can take home.

■ ALL ABOUT OIL

Sunday, August 24, 2 p.m., Artopia, Petersen Automotive Museum

What do gasoline, soccer balls, and dishwashing soap have in common? And what's to be done with used auto oil? Prepare to be a good driver by making an "oily" notebook!

■ CAT NAP

Overnight, Saturday, August 16 to Sunday, August 17, 7 p.m. to 8 a.m. Children ages 5 and older with accompanying adult, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Spend the night with lions, leopards, and servals in the museum's African Mammal Hall and discover the differences (and amazing similarities) between these wild cats and our domestic feline friends. Join in hands-on activities, create cat craft items, and take a private tour of the exhibit Cats! Wild to Mild, with our favorite museum instructors. An evening snack and a light breakfast are included. Participants must bring their own sleeping bag and air mattress. $40 members, $50 nonmembers.

■ TIDEPOOLING

Sunday, August 17, 2 to 4 p.m. Children ages 5 and older with accompanying adult

Join museum educator Traci Watson for an introduction to the tide pool environments

along our coast. We will examine the critters that live on and under the rocks and see what happens to these communities as the tide goes out. $20 members, $25 nonmembers.

■ GOING, GOING, GONE!

Saturday, September 27, 10 a.m. to noon, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park. Children ages 9 to 12

In the nineteenth century, the dodo bird of Madagascar became extinct: the last known individuals died and the species disappeared forever. Why should we care? Naturalist and museum educator Carl Carranza gives some facts about extinction—what causes it and how the end of a species will continue to affect us all. $15 members, $20 nonmembers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Enrichment

■ MEMBERS' LOAN SERVICE

Museum membership provides an unusual and stimulating way to continue your child's education during the long summer break. Bring home a bobcat or ocelot prior to the Cat-Nap sleepover. Or use other dramatic items to build on your youngsters' newly sparked interest in the natural sciences after their sessions in Adventures in Nature.

Your Members' Loan Service has a vast array of scientific specimens, historical objects and models, cultural artifacts, and exciting thematic teaching kits available for home study or to enrich a scout meeting or a summer class.

Our teaching kit on felines was developed in conjunction with the museum's current exhibit, Cats! Wild to Mild. The handy traveling trunk includes specimens and models, books and posters and videos with special appeal for kids, and an instructor's notebook full of background information and fun-filled activities to help children learn more about these familiar but still mysterious animals.

Another new teacher's kit will help your child think carefully about souvenirs brought home from summer trips. "Cargo for Conservation," developed in conjunction with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, shows the effects of illegal wildlife trafficking on protected plants and animals through a variety of hands-on examples. Your child can examine boots, belts, carved ivory, hides, pharmaceutical products, mounted specimens, tonics, and jewelry that have been confiscated as a result of illegal international wildlife trade.

Enliven those long summer afternoons by bringing a bit of the Natural History Museum home! For a $5 fee, three individual items may be borrowed for a 2-week period. Teaching Kits rent for $10 for a 2-week period.

For more information call the Exposition Park museum's loan counter (213/763-3228) during program hours, or contact the Loan Programs' Coordinator (213/763-3345) at other times. **Loan counter hours: Thursdays, 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

PUBLIC PROGRAMS RESERVATION FORM

■ **By telephone:** Use your MasterCard or VISA. Call the Education Division at 213/763-3534, weekdays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Credit cards are accepted only with a minimum charge of $20.

■ **By mail:** Complete the form below, fill in the charge information or enclose a check payable to Museum Foundation, and return your order form and payment with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. The form may be duplicated. Mail to: ***Education Division, Natural History Museum, 900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90007***

■ **Important: Reservation, Waiting List and Refund Policies.** Preregistration is required for all classes, workshops, and field trips and is recommended for all other Education Division programs. Tickets to auditorium events may be purchased at the door on a first-come, first-served basis; seating is not reserved. Reservations are not necessary for Family Fundays.

Applicants for filled programs will be placed on a waiting list and contacted if vacancies or rescheduling occur. If you have paid for a filled program, your payment will be refunded in 4-6 weeks.

Cancellations must be made one week prior to the first day of the event for the registrant to be eligible for a refund. Only if we are able to fill your space will the fee be refunded.

Dates and times of programs are subject to change, and class sizes are limited. Please call 213/763-3534

Mr.
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NAME (Please Print Clearly)

Mail to:
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900 Exposition Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90007

	Number of		Total

❑ My check is enclosed

Charge my credit card:
❑ MasterCard
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Total Remittance _____

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Please list children's names, ages, and programs in which they are enrolling:

_____

_____

_____

_____

MUSEUM TRAVEL PROGRAM

FOLK ART IN OAXACA
November 30 to December 7, 1997

The Valley of Oaxaca offers a unique opportunity to study and enjoy a rare combination of pre-Columbian archaeological sites, an intact Spanish colonial city, and a vibrant present-day society rich in arts and culture. Our 8-day seminar features an outstanding team of local experts, in addition to study leader Dr. Mary MacGregor Villarreal, a folklorist expert in the traditions and art of the Mexican Christmas season. Life still revolves around the *zócalo,* or town square, in the charming city of Oaxaca. We will meet local artisans in their homes and have an opportunity to purchase pottery, ceramic figures, wood carvings, weavings, and fantastic, brightly painted wooden animals directly from them.

■ $2,195 including airfare.

MEXICAN ARCHAEOLOGY
January 6 to 19, 1998

Join Maya archaeologist Dr. Richard D. Hansen on our custom-designed program, where each site has been carefully selected to reveal a different facet of the history, religion, and art of the fascinating cultures of Mexico. We'll trace the development of Teotihuacan and explore the magnificent Maya ceremonial centers of Uxmal, Chichén Itzá, and Palenque. Highlights "off the beaten path" include Toniná and the polychrome wall paintings at Bonampak. We will also meet with artisans in Oaxaca, visit Tzotzil villages in the mountains of Chiapas, and explore the distinctly Spanish city of Merida.

■ $3,870 plus airfare.

AMONG THE GREAT WHALES
February 1 to 9, 1998

Join the museum's Curator of Mammalogy, Dr. John Heyning, tracking whales on a voyage aboard Special Expeditions' 70-passenger *Sea Bird.* We'll explore the protected lagoons of Baja California, where California gray whales return each year to breed, calve, and nurture their young. In the Sea of Cortez, there are several other types of whales to be seen, including finbacks, blues, and humpbacks, as well as the dolphins who regularly accompany our ship. We'll admire gorgeous desert wildflowers during hikes on shore and have an opportunity to snorkel with sea lions and brilliantly colored fish.

■ From $2,690 plus airfare.

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE
February 22 to March 1, 1998

Last call! View the February 26, 1998, total solar eclipse from the decks of Norwegian Cruiselines' *Seaward.* We'll be on the centerline, with a 360-degree unobstructed view, for a totality of 3 minutes, 43 seconds. Our cruise will feature a panel of distinguished experts, who will share their knowledge of astronomy, meteorology, astrophotography, and natural history during on-board presentations. And you'll have the option to explore rain forests, snorkel in crystal clear waters, and tour historic sites on Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, Aruba, and Curaçao.

■ From $1,149 plus airfare.

Photographs of Mexico by Karen Hovanitz

Also coming in 1998... India, Egypt, Iceland and Greenland, the Galapagos, Greece, and China.

TO OBTAIN COMPLETE ITINERARIES and a listing of all 1997-1998 Natural History Museum tours, please call Karen Hovanitz, Museum Travel Program Coordinator, at 213/763-3350.

MUSEUM ON THE MOVE
CONTINUED

continued from page 7

making a contribution equivalent to the current estimated value of that specimen. In return, the adopted specimen will permanently bear a credit line recognizing the donor or a dedication selected by the donor. When the specimen is displayed, the credit line or dedication will appear on its label. Monies received from adoptions are restricted to the purchase of additional specimens for the museum's gem and mineral holdings.

Two adoptions have already occurred. A beautiful crystal of tanzanite from Tanzania, on display in the Systematic Mineralogy section of the Exposition Park museum's Hall of Gems and Minerals, was adopted anonymously in memory of Wilton B. Cohen. And a remarkable crystal of topaz, from the Little Three mine in Ramona, California, and on display in our Hixon Gem Vault, was adopted by the family and friends of the late Victoire Lee, using funds contributed in her memory.

For information on the new program, please contact Dr. Anthony R. Kampf, Curator of Mineral Sciences (telephone 213/763-3328; e-mail akampf@nhm.org).

MEMBERSHIP

■ NEW MUSEUM CD-ROM

The Natural History Museum is pleased to announce the release of its first CD-ROM, which is being offered only as a benefit for members at the Patron level ($150 per year) and above; it will not be sold in the Museum Stores.

The new disk includes interactive, multimedia overviews of all four museums in the Natural History Museum family and features "virtual reality" tours of some of our most popular exhibits. It is packed with wonderful images from behind the scenes and amazing facts drawn from our vast and varied collections.

The CD-ROM, which is both Windows-95- and Macintosh-compatible, was produced by Digital Ivy Group of Los Angeles; eligible members may claim it in the Exposition Park's Membership Services Office, during public hours, between now and September 7. If you would like to upgrade your membership to qualify to receive this

exciting benefit, please call Membership Services at 213/763-3426.

■ 3,900 ATTEND MEMBERS' OPEN HOUSE

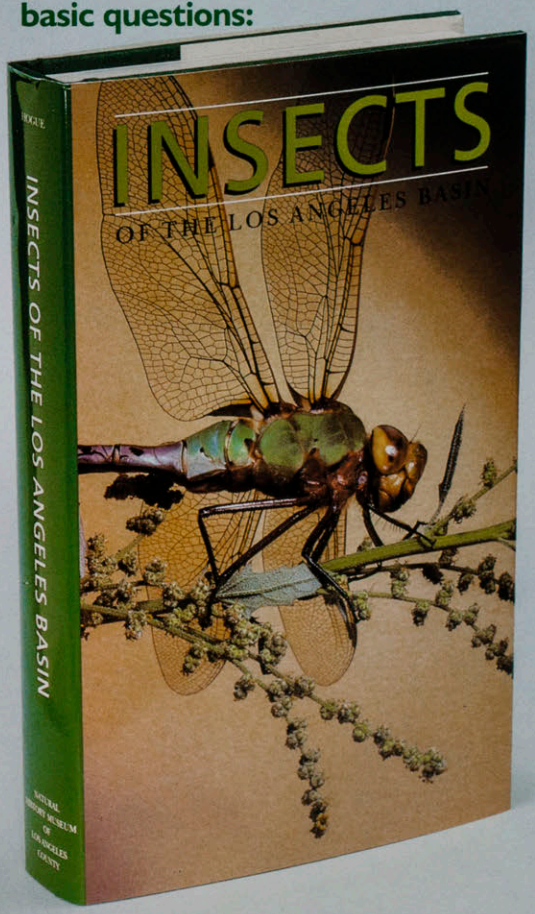
On Saturday, April 19, 1997, a record number of members joined the staff and volunteers of the Exposition Park, Page, Petersen, and Hart museums for the Natural History Museum's 26th Annual Members'-Only Open House. Guests explored all five floors of the Exposition Park facility, met live animals brought by Wildlife on Wheels, and enjoyed a performance by members of the Los Angeles Intertribal Dance Troupe. The participants also took advantage of B.Y.O.B. (Bring Your Own Bug) and presented over 100 creatures with six or more legs to be identified by Insect Zoo staff and volunteer experts.

The Membership Services Office gratefully acknowledges the in-kind donations of Mother's Cake and Cookie Company, Sparkletts Water Company, and Ralphs/Food 4 Less Foundation. We also thank the staff members and volunteers who make this wonderful membership event possible each year.

■ CORRECTION

In our Annual Report issue (TERRA, March/April 1997), Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Smith should have been acknowledged as having made a significant gift to a specific research project during fiscal year 1995–1996.

When you encounter an insect, you need answers to some basic questions:



- What is it—why is it here in my house or office or yard?
- What does it eat? (Is it eating my clothes, my food, my favorite plants?)
- Will it sting or bite me? Does it carry disease?

In fact, only about 1 percent of the insect species found in southern California should provoke alarmed vigilance in the human residents. The other 99 percent are harmless or actually extremely inportant to our well-being. *Insects of the Los Angeles Basin* by the Natural History Museum's former curator of entomology, the late Charles L. Hogue, will help you discover which types to encourage and which to avoid.

A highly readable book, *Insects of the Los Angeles Basin* emphasizes the effects that insects have on the people who encounter them. It is an essential reference for gardeners, teachers, students, campers, and anyone who enjoys nature.

Available in the Natural History Museum Stores or by mail order (213/763-3488). 448 pages; 423 photos, 376 in color; maps, glossary, appendixes, biliography, index; 5¼ by 8¾ inches. Cloth, $45; paperback, $27.95. Museum members receive a 10 percent discount.

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As of June 1, 1997

The Natural History Museum exists to advance knowledge and to enable people of all ages, backgrounds, and interests to understand and appreciate their natural and cultural heritage. The museum assembles, conserves, interprets, and holds in trust collections of irreplaceable objects from nature and human history. These collections reveal the history of the Earth and the evolution and diversity of life and culture. They sustain programs of research, exhibits, education, and publication.

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
World Wide Web: http://www.nhm.org
TDD numbers, for the hard of hearing:
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Education 213/743-4862
Museum Security 213/743-4863

■ Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park
900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles 90007
General information 213/763-DINO

■ George C. Page Museum of La Brea Discoveries
5801 Wilshire Blvd., Hancock Park, Los Angeles 90036
General information 213/934-PAGE

■ Petersen Automotive Museum
6060 Wilshire Blvd., at Fairfax, Los Angeles 90036
General information 213/930-CARS

■ William S. Hart Museum
24151 San Fernando Road, Hart Park, Newhall 91321
General information 805/254-4584

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Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
Exposition Park, Los Angeles, California 90007

The Ferrari at Fifty exhibition at the Petersen Automotive Museum features several dozen of the fastest and most elegant cars ever made. ■ And the Petersen Museum Store is stocked with apparel and accessories bearing the exclusive rampant horse Ferrari logo, as well as the exhibition's official T-shirt and poster (above), rendered in vibrant colors by Exhibit Designer Jim Hatch.

For information, please call 213/964-6328.

Natural History Museum and Petersen Museum Members receive a discount on their purchases in all of our museum stores!

Dinosaur Shop and Explore Store/Exposition Park Museum: 213/763-3488	Cats in the Gallery Store/ Exposition Park Museum: 213/763-3420	Tar Pits Store/ Page Museum of La Brea Discoveries: 213/857-6300